

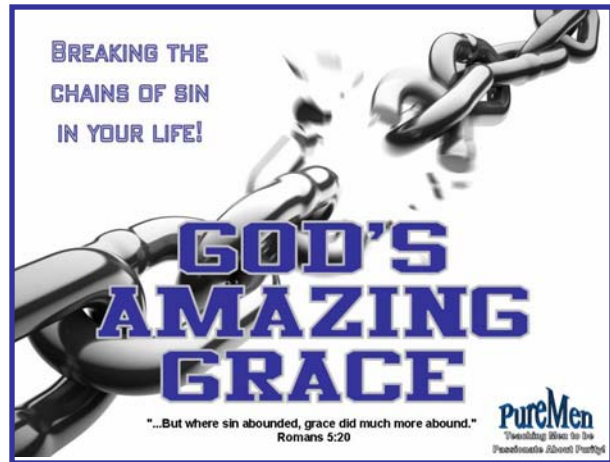
PureMen

PureMen Bible Study – Session 18 – 4/6/10

Something To Thank the Lord For?

Recite Memory Verse – Job 31:1

- ⇒ Discuss “Covenant Eyes” signature card
- ⇒ Reminder of Spirituality Assessment Review
- ⇒ Any Assessment Form feedback?



Review Study Questions from Chapter Seventeen – *The Power of God’s Grace*

Review Questions From Workbook:

Of a great truth, our God is slow to anger!

- ⇒ **Nehemiah 9:17b:** “*but thou art a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not.*”
- ⇒ **Psalms 103:8:** “*The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.*”
- ⇒ **Psalms 145:8:** “*The LORD is gracious, and full of compassion; slow to anger, and of great mercy.*”
- ⇒ **Joel 2:13:** “*turn unto the LORD your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness,...*”
- ⇒ **Jonah 4:2:** “*for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness,...*”
- ⇒ **Nahum 1:3:** “*The LORD is slow to anger, and great in power,...*”

“*It is unquestionable that God exhibits tremendous patience towards man’s open rebellion to His commandments. Nonetheless, we must understand that even though God is patient there will most assuredly be a season of reaping for one’s past indiscretions. God’s patience should never be confused with His grace. Although they work together, they are two different aspects of His character.*” – At the Altar of Sexual Idolotry / Gallagher, p. 272.

Grace – *Definition:* The free, unmerited favor of God that was purchased through the blood and death of Jesus Christ. (*Concise King James Bible Dictionary, David Cloud*)

Patience v. Grace

Q: How do you describe the difference between God’s patience and His grace?

Question #1 – Write out the definition of patience given by the Theological Dictionary of the N.T.

“The majestic God graciously restrains His righteous wrath, as in his saving work for Israel. He does so in covenant faithfulness but also out of regard for human frailty. Forebearance, of course, is not renunciation but postponement with a view to repentance.”

“God is patient in regards to a man’s sin, but His patience is for the purpose of giving a person time to repent.” – At the Altar of Sexual Idolotry / Gallagher, p. 273.

Question #3: Complete the sentence which begins, “It is extremely dangerous...” *“It is extremely dangerous for an individual involved in habitual sin to assume that because he has not yet had his “day of reckoning” for his misconduct that there will be no forthcoming judgment to face.” – At the Altar of Sexual Idolotry / Gallagher, p. 273.*

Q: How would you explain the difference between **God’s love** and **His grace**.

ILLUS: The Rich Young Ruler – Mark 10:17-22

- v.21 *“Then Jesus beholding him loved him,”*
- Jesus’ love did not determine his eternal destiny. [Question 7] The young ruler’s eternity depended upon his response to Jesus’ love. Jesus brought this man to a crossroad – choose today whom you will serve – God or mammon! Jesus saw the man’s idolatry – his god was his money. Jesus brought this man to a decision point – if you wish to be my follower, you’ll have to give up your idol.

Q: What can we learn from what Jesus did not do (run after him and compromise His requirements) when this man walked away?

A Misunderstanding of God’s Love – “God will overlook my sin.” *“His love does not negate His commandments; He will not simply overlook sin. In fact, if anything, His love demands that we obey Him and turn away from our sin.”* (p. 275)

Question #4 After years of cultivating you spiritually, what is it that “He expects to one day” do? *Reap a fruitful harvest.*

Question #6: What is the dangerous thing about savoring God’s love while in a state of unrepentant sin?” *The dangerous thing about savoring God’s love while in a state of unrepentant sin is that a person can actually be deceived, thinking he is in true fellowship with the Lord.*

- You cannot be walking with God and looking at pornography! You can’t! To believe otherwise is pure folly! You are being deceived!

Question #8 What is it that the author is “convinced” of concerning grace? *That what many people today are accepting as grace is really nothing more than the presumptuous license to sin.*
Grace Is Not a Synonym for Licentiousness

Jude 4 *“For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness...”*

- Lasciviousness – Def: Looseness; lustfulness (Webster 1828). Wantonness (www.merriam-webster.com). Wantonness means hard to control, being without check or limitation.
- Licentiousness – Def: Excessive indulgence of liberty; contempt of the just restraints of law, morality, and decorum (Webster’s 1828). Lacking legal or moral restraints, especially disregarding sexual restraints (www.merriam-webster.com).

In other words, God’s grace is not a license to sin!

Dietrich Bonhoeffer & Cheap Grace [Question #9]

- *“Cheap grace is the preaching of forgiveness without requiring repentance, baptism without church discipline, Communion without confession...”*
- *“Cheap grace is grace without discipleship, grace without the cross, grace without Jesus Christ...”*
- *“Costly grace is the treasure hidden in the field; for the sake of it a man will gladly go and sell all that he has. It is the pearl of great price to buy [for] which the merchant will sell all his goods...”*
- *“Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ. It is costly because it cost a man his life, and it is grace because it gives a man the only true life.”* p. 279

John MacArthur Quote [Question #10]

- *“The contemporary church has the idea that salvation is only the granting of eternal life, not necessarily the liberation of a sinner from the bondage of his iniquity. We tell people that God loves them and has a wonderful plan for their lives, but that is only half the truth. God also hates sin and will punish unrepentant sinners with eternal torment. No gospel presentation is complete if it avoids or conceals those facts. Any message that fails to define and confront the severity of personal sin is a deficient gospel. And any “salvation” that does not alter a lifestyle of sin and transform the heart of the sinner is not a genuine salvation.”* p.279-280
- 2 Corinthians 5:17 *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”*

William Barclay Quote

- *“Grace is not only a gift; it is a grave responsibility. A man cannot go on living the life he lived before he met Jesus Christ. He must be clothed in a new purity and a new holiness and a new goodness. The door is open, but the door is not open to the sinner to come and remain a sinner, but for the sinner to come and become a saint.”* p.285

Question #12 What are “those who imagine that they can remain in unrepentant sin” really saying? *I don’t want to be cleansed; I just want to be forgiven (fire insurance from hell).*

Question #13 What is “very important for the man whose life is characterized by lustful acts to know?” *“It is very important for the man whose life is characterized by lustful acts to know that as much as he has indulged in sin, god has an even greater measure of grace to*

overcome that sin. As we have already seen, the reason Jesus came was to break the power of sin over the believer's life." - At the Altar of Sexual Idolotry / Gallagher, p. 287.

Romans 5:20 "...But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

ILLUS: The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)

- *"One of the primary aspects of God's grace is that He will always accept the penitent heart – no matter how horrendous the sin!" "When a sinner comes to God in repentance, it does not matter what he has done, the slate is wiped CLEAN! No condemnation; no guilt trips. There is only joyful acceptance from God the Father!" - At the Altar of Sexual Idolotry / Gallagher, p. 287.*
- There is no pit too deep, no sin too grotesque that God's grace is not bigger than!

2 Peter 3:18 "But grow in grace..." **Q:** What does it mean to grow in grace?

- *"Yes, it is true: grace is the means whereby salvation is available to all mankind. Yet, it is even more than that. Grace is also a teacher, and its primary subject of instruction is how to live a life pleasing to God. When that temptation arises for something ungodly, grace is there to teach us to say "No." When an opportunity comes to give over to some worldly passion, grace instructs us to deny it. Not only does it help us during those times of temptation, but God's daily grace is an active force in the life of the believer "to live (self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age)." [KJV –"live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world"] - At the Altar of Sexual Idolotry / Gallagher, p. 288.*

Review Personal Examination Questions

1. What did you learn about God's grace from this chapter?
2. What did you learn about the way you have responded to that grace in the past from this chapter? What is your response now?

Close in Prayer

